GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1535
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2003
MAINTENANCE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONUMENTS
AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) has started a Foundation forestoration and maintenance of Archaeological Monuments in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received any representation from West Bengal Government to undertake some projects in the State;

(c) whether the Government have considered the request of West Bengal Government; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a): Yes, Sir. The Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) has set up a non-profit trust in the name and style of `The Indian Oi Foundation` with the objective to protect, preserve and promote the national heritage, in collaboration with the Archaeological Survey of India and the National Culture Fund of the Government of India.

(b) to (d): No representation has been received from the Government of West Bengal to undertake any projectin the State. However, recommendations from certain sources have been received for taking up the heritage sites of Plassey, Tamluk Royal Palace and Estate, Barga, Bhima Temple, Mahisadal Royal Palace &Estate, Moynagarh (Fort) and relics of Tamralipta Bandar in the State of West Bengal. These recommendations have been compiled and sent to the Director General, Archaeological Survey of India for prioritization of the sites.